

Staff Sergeant Hoskins was next assigned to Stuttgart, Germany. He developed an emergency vehicles operator's course that was adapted throughout the United States Army in Europe.

Over his long career Staff Sergeant Ronald Hoskins has received many awards and decorations, including the meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon with numeral two device, Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral four device and Drivers Badge.

I congratulate Staff Sergeant Hoskins on his lengthy and dedicated career in the United States Army. I also want to recognize the efforts of his wife Susan without whom none of these accomplishments would be possible. Moreover, I extend to Staff Sergeant Hoskins my profound appreciation for his service to the nation. I am honored to share his success with my colleagues and I wish him and his family all the best for the future.●

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA

● Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding group of public servants—the Girl Scouts of the USA—who today celebrate the 92nd birthday of their organization.

Founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low in Savannah, GA, Girl Scouts is the world's pre-eminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls—where they can build character and skills for success in the real world. Partnered with committed adult volunteers, Girl Scouts cultivate their full individual potential through learning and experience. The qualities they develop in Girl Scouting—leadership, values, social conscience, and conviction about their own self-worth—serve and benefit them all their lives.

Nationwide today there are more than 3.7 million Girl Scouts—2.8 million girl members and 942,000 adult members. Through its membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a worldwide family of 8.5 million girls and adults in 140 countries.

Today's Girl Scouts receive interactive training and experience in such areas as: leadership; math; science and technology; diversity; financial literacy; health, fitness and sports; environmental education; the arts; global awareness; and safety. Our children's safety is a matter of great concern to me. You may remember a wave of child abductions not too long ago, including the kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart in my own home State of Utah, which highlighted the need to enhance our ability to protect our Nation's children. Last year, I introduced the PRO-

TECT Act of 2003, an Act to prevent child abduction and the sexual exploitation of children, which was signed into law by President Bush in April. This legislation included the AMBER Alert system program, which has proven to be a valuable tool in the rescue of abducted children. AMBER Alert systems are critical to successful search and recovery efforts because they enable law enforcement authorities to galvanize entire communities to assist in the safe recovery of child victims.

Elizabeth's disappearance raised awareness of this type of crime nationwide. Our entire Nation rejoiced with the Smart family after Elizabeth was found alive and reunited with her loved ones. Her discovery, facilitated by everyday citizens who had followed this case, demonstrates the importance of getting information about these disappearances out to the public quickly, and what accomplishments can be achieved when communities partner together.

Today, Girl Scouts of Utah will be celebrating the miracle of Elizabeth Smart's return to her family, and the Girl Scouts of the USA's 92nd birthday, by organizing a statewide safety awareness campaign—Partners In Safety. Ed and Lois Smart, Elizabeth's parents, are the honorary chairs of this campaign. Although today kicks off an ongoing focus on safety rather than just a one-day event, Utah communities are invited to open house events on that date. Currently there are more than 25 open house locations in the state of Utah; and a variety of organizations state-wide have enlisted to participate as community sponsors in company with law enforcement and local governments. There will be a variety of safety-related activities at each site, and each participating agency will have a pledge poster so everyone in the community can sign and pledge safety on behalf of those they love.

We all care about the safety of our youth. The goal of Partners In Safety is to bring us all together to deliver the message of safety. I encourage everyone dedicated to safety to pledge to make a difference in your community by reaching the youth you know—talk to your children, grandchildren, students, teammates, troops, packs and church groups.

Begun by Ogden volunteers, Girl Scouts of Utah has been in existence since 1920 and has been committed to principles of pluralism, respect, and community service since inception. Utah Girl Scouts have delivered handmade quilts to hospitals around Utah, decorated Christmas trees for the Festival of Trees, organized and attended hundreds of community service projects, increased their knowledge of finance during the Girl Scout cookie sale, learned about themselves and others, gained more respect for diversity, and participated in initiatives in science, sports, leadership, environmental education, and outdoor exploration. Recently, Girl Scouts of Utah

was named a proud recipient of the 2004 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award from the Utah Human Rights Commission in recognition of their steadfast devotion to diversity. Utah Girl Scouts have gotten a jump start on their way to becoming happy, committed, and resourceful citizens.

Throughout its long history, Girl Scouts experienced many milestones made possible by the strength and dedication of countless farsighted individuals—mostly volunteers—who tirelessly served girls and promoted Girl Scouting. We simply have no greater resource than our children; they represent our Nation's future. I commend the Girl Scouts of the USA for their tireless efforts on behalf of our children and families.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, treaties, and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:15 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3915. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through April 2, 2004, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2207. A bill to improve women's access to health care services, and the access of all individuals to emergency and trauma care services, by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of such services.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated: